



IOWA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY**

DENNIS C. PROUTY, DIRECTOR  
IOWA STATE CAPITOL  
DES MOINES, IA 50319  
515.281.3566  
Fax: 515.281.8027  
[dennis.prouty@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:dennis.prouty@legis.state.ia.us)

**DIVISIONS**

LEGAL SERVICES  
RICHARD L. JOHNSON

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COMPUTER SERVICES  
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ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

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**Dennis C. Prouty**

Director  
515.281.3566  
Fax: 515.281.8027  
[dennis.prouty@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:dennis.prouty@legis.state.ia.us)

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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** August 8, 2006

**TO:** Fiscal Committee Chairs, Ranking Members  
Health and Human Services Appropriations  
Subcommittee Chairs, Ranking Members  
Health and Human Services Caucus Staff

**FROM:** Dennis Prouty

**CC:** Executive Council Members  
Director Mary Hansen, Department of Public Health

**RE:** Department of Public Health Request to Executive  
Council for Pandemic Influenza Prevention Funds

The Department of Public Health submitted a request to the Executive Council for \$4.8 million on July 31 to cover costs associated with the purchase, storing, and distribution of antiviral treatment courses associated with the prevention and treatment of pandemic influenza.

The Department has the authority to request funds for such purchases through the Executive Council pursuant to Section 7D.29, Code of Iowa, which was amended by HF 2797 (FY 2007 Standing Appropriations Act), giving the Department this authority. If approved, the funds will be paid from General Funds not otherwise appropriated.

The Department will use the funds to purchase 308,887 courses of the antivirals Tamiflu and Relenza to cover 25.0% of Iowa's population at a cost of \$4.6 million. This cost is after a 25.0% federal subsidy is applied, which reduces the cost of the vaccine for the State. An additional \$246,000 will be used for storage, planning, distribution, and maintenance of the antivirals, which are expected to have a shelf life of five years.

After the initial \$4.8 million cost, the Department estimates annual on-going costs of \$188,000 for facility rental, monitoring, administration, equipment, and travel.

The Council is expected to vote to approve or deny the request on August 14. Section 7D.29, Code of Iowa, as amended by SF 2273 (FY 2006 Supplemental Appropriations Act), requires the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) be notified at least two weeks prior to the Executive Council's approval of a payment authorization and be provided with justification for the request. The LSA received notification on July 28.

Additional information is available from the LSA upon request.